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State of Vermont

By His Excellency Thomas Chittenden Esqr
Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief,
in and over the State of Vermont

A Proclamation

Since it is indispensible duty of a community on state
seriously to notice the neglectes reflections of a holy GOD;
to humble themselves for their sins, acknowledge their dependence
on the Supreme Governor of the Universe, and Unitedly to
supplicate his Blessing and Protection, of which their multiplied
transgressions render them unworthy.

I have thought fit to appoint, and by and with the advice of the
Council, and at the request of the General Assembly of this State,
do hereby appoint Wednesday the eleventh day of April next,
to be observed as a day of Publick Fasting and prayer throughout
this State. And I do hereby earnestly exhort both ministers and
people of every religious denomination, to assemble in their
respective congregations on that day, and with deep contrition
and unfeigned penitence of heart, to confess their sins to Almighty
GOD, and implore the forgiveness of them thro' the merits of our
Mediator. At the same time resolving by the assistance of his
grace, on a reformation of life, and to bring forth the positive
fruits of holiness and virtue; earnestly beseeching him, that he
would avert all impending judgements, effect every necessary
reform in government, deliver us from unhappy divisions
and insurrections, and quiet the minds of the people of this and
the United States, and maintain a happy union between rulers
and subjects. That he would mercifully deliver the States from
the designs of all their enemies. Strengthen and establish peace
on the most equitable and permanent basis. That he would
suppress vice, immorality and infidelity, too prevalent among
us, cause the spirit of pure and undefiled religion to revive
and spread through the land. That he would influence in the
legislative, executive and judicial departments of this State

that he would build up churches in the true faith and fellowship of the gospel cause true gospel light to spread and prevail, and effect and bring about a happy period to all dissention and division in matters of religion. That he would prosper all schools and seminaries of learning, so that our youth may be trained up to all useful knowledge. That he would prosper our husbandry, manufactures, and every branch of useful commerce, that he would deliver and save our land from drought, frost, insects, and every other desolating evil, whereby the earth may be prevented from yielding her increase. That he would prevent wasting sickness, crown the year with plenty and every needful effect of his goodness. That he would bless the United States of America, succeed their councils at home and their negotiations abroad, preserve and strengthen their union, bless their Allies, and render the connection formed with them mutually beneficial. That he would break the yoke of the present oppressors of mankind, and establish the peaceful and glorious kingdom of GOD over all throughout the world

And I do hereby strongly recommend that all servile labor and recreation be suspended on that day.

Given at the Council Chamber in Bennington this seventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, and in the eleventh year of the Independence of this State

Thomas Chittenden

By His Excellency's Command
Joseph Fay secretary

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE